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| 10/675,371 | 09/30/2003 | Robert Beckstrom | 6065/88622 | 5983 |
| 24628 | 7590 | 11/30/2007 | | |
| WELSH & KATZ, LTD 120 S RIVERSIDE PLAZA 22ND FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606 | | | EXAMINER DAYE, CHELCIE L | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2161 | PAPER NUMBER |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,371

Applicant(s)

BECKSTROM ET AL.

Examiner

Chelcie Daye

Art Unit

2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is issued in response to applicant's amendment filed October 23, 2007.
2. Claims 1-20 are presented. No claims added and none cancelled.
3. Claims 1-20 are pending.
4. Applicant's arguments filed October 23, 2007, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

5. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 23, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fedorov (US Patent No. 6,047,060) filed on February 20, 1998, in view of Shaffer (US Patent No. 6,363,145) filed on August 17, 1998.

Regarding Claims 1, 11, and 20, Fedorov discloses a method for improving transactions in a communication system, comprising:

monitoring a data session (column 5, lines 26-29, Fedorov) between at least one of first and second parties (column 7, lines 56-59, Fedorov)¹ in a transaction in the communication system (column 10, lines 48-55, Fedorov); and

conferencing a third party into the transaction as an additional participant in the transaction in response to the monitoring of the data session between the first and second parties (column 2, lines 34-39 and column 8, lines 27-35, Fedorov). However, Fedorov is silent with respect to the steps being performed automatically. On the other hand, Shaffer discloses the step of automation (column 4, lines 17-27 and column 5, lines 36-65, Shaffer). Fedorov and Shaffer are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of automatic call distributors. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Shaffer's teachings into the Fedorov system. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to combine as suggested by Shaffer at column 2, lines 18-23, in order to provide automated ACD call monitoring. As a result, enabling a supervisor to utilize information generated by

the monitoring during the pendency of the call and providing a more complete description of agent performance. As well as allowing a superior official to join in, if needed.

Regarding Claims 2 and 12, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party is at least one of a virtual party and an automated input (column 5, lines 37-50, Shaffer).

Regarding Claim 3, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party is engaged to review at least one of text messages and emails before they are sent (column 8, lines 8-20 and column 11, lines 21-24, Fedorov).

Regarding Claims 4 and 14, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party engages in a background of the data session of at least one of the first and second parties (column 7, lines 50-54, Fedorov)².

Regarding Claims 5 and 15, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party engages in a foreground of the data session (column 8, line 29, Fedorov) to reduce stress levels of at least

¹ Examiner Notes: The agent and the customer represent the first and second parties.

one of the first and second parties (columns 7-8, lines 66-67 and 1-5, respectively, Shaffer).

Regarding Claims 6 and 16, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party communicates only with one of the first and second parties (column 8, lines 27-35, Fedorov)³.

Regarding Claims 7 and 17, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the third party communicates with both of the first and second parties (column 8, lines 27-35, Fedorov)⁴.

Regarding Claims 8 and 18, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the monitoring of the data session between the first and second parties is conducted in real-time (column 7, lines 50-54, Fedorov).

Regarding Claims 9 and 19, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the method wherein the monitoring of the data session is conducted by at least one of; analyzing a respective voice signal of at least one of the first and second parties (column 4, lines 34-39 and column 6, lines 48-52,

² Examiner Notes: Since the supervisor is talking to the agent and not both, the supervisor is participating in the background of the call.

³ Examiner Notes: "To communicate with the agent transparent to the caller" corresponds to only communicating with one of the parties (i.e. the agent).

Shaffer), converting a respective voice signal of at least one of the first and second parties to text and analyzing the text, and analyzing a physical stress level of at least one of the first and second parties.

Regarding Claim 13, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose the apparatus wherein one of the parties in the transaction is a customer, wherein the monitoring comprises automatically detecting an indication by the customer that they desire to deal with a supervisor and wherein the means for automatically engaging engages the supervisor in response thereto (column 4, lines 44-63 and column 5, lines 29-65, Shaffer).

8. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fedorov (US Patent No. 6,047,060) filed on February 20, 1998, in view of Shaffer (US Patent No. 6,363,145) filed on August 17, 1998, and further in view of Miloslavsky (US Patent No. 6,021,428) filed January 22, 1998.

Regarding Claim 10, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, disclose wherein detection of problematic phrases within the content engages the third party (column 5, lines 29-36, Shaffer). However, the combination of Fedorov in view of Shaffer, are silent with respect to the automatic monitoring comprising

⁴ Examiner Notes: "To participate in the calls" corresponds to communicate with both parties.

automatic inspection of content of data messages, text messages, and emails.

On the other hand, Miloslavsky discloses automatic inspection of content of data messages, text messages, and emails (column 36, lines 9-36, Miloslavsky).

Federov, Shaffer, and Miloslavsky are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of a telephone call-in-center. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Miloslavsky's teachings into the Federov and Shaffer system. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to combine as suggested by Miloslavsky at columns 1-2, lines 58-67 and 1-2, respectively, in order to introduce the Internet together with advances in computer hardware and software to lead to a new multi-media telephone system, known as Internet protocol network telephony (IPNT). As a result, the use of the IPNT allows for the improved handling of more calls faster and the improvement of other services in every way.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the newly amended claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

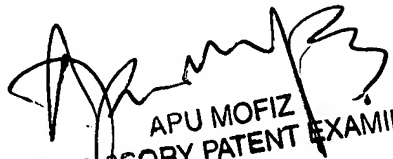
Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chelcie Daye whose telephone number is 571-272-3891. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Apu Mofiz can be reached on 571-272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chelcie Daye
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
November 27, 2007


APU MOFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER